IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 5, 10 and 15 as indicated below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original) A method for creating a preload, wherein an object of said preload is an aggregation of one or more software element objects, comprising the steps of:

defining a particular preload object with one or more attributes;

comparing attributes of said one or more software element objects with said one or more attributes of said particular preload object, wherein each of said one or more software element objects constitutes one or more of a device driver object, an operating system object and an application software object;

identifying one or more of said one or more software element objects whose attributes comprise said one or more attributes of said particular preload object; and

installing software associated with said identified one or more software elements objects onto a particular preload associated with said particular preload object.

Claim 2 (original) The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

modifying an attribute of said identified one or more software element objects to match said one or more attributes of said particular preload object.

Claim 3 (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises one or more of an operating system information and an installation information.

Claim 4 (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises a part number.

Claim 5 (currently amended) ~~The method as recited in claim 4 further comprising the steps of:~~ A method for creating a preload, wherein an object of said preload is an aggregation of one or more software element objects, comprising the steps of:

defining a particular preload object with one or more attributes;

comparing attributes of said one or more software element objects with said one or more attributes of said particular preload object, wherein each of said one or more software element objects constitutes one or more of a device driver object, an operating system object and an application software object;

identifying one or more of said one or more software element objects whose attributes comprise said one or more attributes of said particular preload object;

installing software associated with said identified one or more software elements objects onto a particular preload associated with said particular preload object;

transmitting one or more part numbers associated with said identified one or more software element objects to a manufacturing system; and

retrieving software associated with said identified one or more software element objects based on said one or more part numbers;

wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises a part number.

Claim 6 (original) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having computer program logic recorded thereon for creating a preload, comprising the programming steps of:

defining a particular preload object with one or more attributes;

comparing attributes of said one or more software element objects with said one or more attributes of said particular preload object, wherein each of said one or

more software element objects constitutes one or more of a device driver object, an operating system object and an application software object;

identifying one or more of said one or more software element objects whose attributes comprise said one or more attributes of said particular preload object; and

installing software associated with said identified one or more software elements objects onto a particular preload associated with said particular preload object.

Claim 7 (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 6 further comprises the programming step of:

modifying an attribute of said identified one or more software element objects to match said one or more attributes of said particular preload object.

Claim 8 (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 6, wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises one or more of an operating system information and an installation information.

Claim 9 (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 6, wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises a part number.

Claim 10 (currently amended) ~~The computer program product as recited in claim 9 further comprises the programming steps of:~~ A computer program product having a computer readable medium having computer program logic recorded thereon for creating a preload, comprising the programming steps of:

defining a particular preload object with one or more attributes;

comparing attributes of said one or more software element objects with said one or more attributes of said particular preload object, wherein each of said one or more software element objects constitutes one or more of a device driver object, an operating system object and an application software object;

identifying one or more of said one or more software element objects whose attributes comprise said one or more attributes of said particular preload object;

installing software associated with said identified one or more software elements objects onto a particular preload associated with said particular preload object;

transmitting one or more part numbers associated with said identified one or more software element objects to a manufacturing system; and

retrieving software associated with said identified one or more software element objects based on said one or more part numbers;

wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises a part number.

Claim 11 (original) A system, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory unit coupled to said processor, wherein said memory unit is operable for storing a computer program for creating a preload, wherein an object of said preload is an aggregation of one or more software element objects, wherein the computer program is operable for performing the following programming steps:

defining a particular preload object with one or more attributes;

comparing attributes of said one or more software element objects with said one or more attributes of said particular preload object, wherein each of said one or more software element objects constitutes one or more of a device driver object, an operating system object and an application software object;

identifying one or more of said one or more software element objects whose attributes comprise said one or more attributes of said particular preload object; and

installing software associated with said identified one or more software element objects onto a particular preload associated with said particular preload object.

Claim 12 (original) The system as recited in claim 11, wherein the computer program is further operable for performing the following programming step:

modifying an attribute of said identified one or more software element objects to match said one or more attributes of said particular preload object.

Claim 13 (original) The system as recited in claim 11, wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises one or more of an operating system information and an installation information.

Claim 14 (original) The system as recited in claim 11, wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises a part number.

Claim 15 (currently amended) ~~The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the computer program is further operable for performing the following programming steps:~~ A system, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory unit coupled to said processor, wherein said memory unit is operable for storing a computer program for creating a preload, wherein an object of said preload is an aggregation of one or more software element objects, wherein the computer program is operable for performing the following programming steps:

defining a particular preload object with one or more attributes;

comparing attributes of said one or more software element objects with said one or more attributes of said particular preload object, wherein each of said one or more software element objects constitutes one or more of a device driver object, an operating system object and an application software object;

identifying one or more of said one or more software element objects whose attributes comprise said one or more attributes of said particular preload object;

installing software associated with said identified one or more software element objects onto a particular preload associated with said particular preload object;

transmitting one or more part numbers associated with said identified one or more software element objects to a manufacturing system; and

retrieving software associated with said identified one or more software element objects based on said one or more part numbers;

wherein each of said one or more software element objects is associated with attribute data, wherein said attribute data comprises a part number.